**Welcome to ELL Intensive Level 2**

**Academic Skills Development**

**Tuesday & Thursday 9:00-12:00 noon**

Teacher: Jimmy LaVecchio Room: 119b

This is a fast class for serious students. This is one part of your English Intensive class. The class meets 5 days per week MTWThF, and I will work with you on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Coming to school every day should help you make fast progress so that you reach your goals more quickly. The class covers academic reading, writing, and vocabulary and is designed to help you build strong skills to succeed in getting a diploma, going to college, or getting a professional job. With hard work, all students should move forward at the end of this cycle.

Expectations:

* Come to every class and be ON TIME, by 9am.
* Bring your textbook and/or workbook, notebook, a pencil, an eraser, and your homework.
* Participate actively, work cooperatively, and treat everyone with respect.
* Speak only English in class. Find ways to practice your English outside of class.
* Do all your homework. To make progress, you *must* study outside of class. We recommend at least one hour of homework per day.

Look at your progress - Assessments:

* I will look at your homework, tests, and work in class.
* You will take the TABE reading test 2 or 3 times a year to show your progress in English.
* You and I will complete your progress report together in the middle of the cycle. You will see where you are strong and where you need to improve.

What is your next class?:

* At the end of the cycle, you and I will decide together if you are ready to go to Intensive 2. We want to promote all students to the next level if possible.
* If you need more practice with the Intensive 1 material, you will repeat this level.
* You can repeat this level only one time. You cannot repeat two times. If you are not ready for Intensive 2 at the end of your second time, the counselor will talk with you about your choices.

Talk with me:

Do you have questions or suggestions for class? Please talk with me. I want to hear from you! This class is for you. It is important that you are happy, comfortable, and learning.

To go to Intensive Level 3, checklist:

Grammar

* Use present, past, and future tenses accurately most of the time.
* Understand concept of parts of speech and identify in context.
* Use subject pronouns and possessive adjectives accurately.
* 75% oral and written control of basic grammar including present, simple past (regular and irregular) and future tenses (will/going to), including negatives and questions
* 75% oral and written control of future tense clauses (if, when, before, after), modals (will, can should, might, may must), first conditional form.
* Contrast past vs. past continuous (75% accuracy).
* Correctly make comparisons between two or more things.
* Use count and non-count nouns with appropriate quantity words.

Reading/Vocabulary

* Read and understand a 3-5 paragraph passage on a familiar topic, containing mostly familiar vocabulary and grammatical structures.
* Read, understand, and follow directions for written exercises and tests.
* Use various strategies (e.g., dictionary, context clues) to learn and understand new words.
* Read and understand simple graphic information.
* Read and understand stories and articles written for native speakers at a reading level of GLE 3-5.
* Find main idea and supporting details in a reading passage.
* Talk about a text read in class using own words.
* Identify fact vs. opinion.
* Sequence events in a story.
* Understand common abbreviations, and some common idioms.
* Recognize common roots, prefixes and suffixes.

 Writing

* Fill out an online applications and other common forms.
* Understand and apply spelling rules for present tenses, plurals, -ing, -s on verbs.
* Use mostly appropriate grammar, subject/verb agreement, syntax, and mechanics in writing.
* Write a well-organized, well-constructed paragraph of at least 5 sentences.
* Use correct verb tense from among those already learned.
* Understand and use capitalization.
* Correctly spell regular and irregular forms of simple past tense verbs.
* Attempt a mix of simple, compound, and complex sentences with appropriate connecting words -- (and, but, so, because, although, when, while) and appropriate punctuation.
* Write for a variety of reasons (describe an experience, express an opinion, or describe a scene).
* Use commas in a list/series, date, city/state, and with clauses.

Learning Strategies

* Keep an organized notebook.
* Reliably complete homework assignments.
* Actively participate in class.
* Demonstrate appropriate social skills in whole class and collaborative activities.
* Independently use retrieval and other successful study strategies to maximize learning.
* Use own words to present information.
* Independently/successfully use available tools for learning – dictionary, phone, Internet, text/paper, electronic translator, etc.